

Application No. 10/604,531
Docket No. H-205829-div
Amendment dated June 20, 2005
Reply to Office Action of March 24, 2005

REMARKS

In the Office Action, the Examiner reviewed claims 1-16 of the above-identified US Patent Application, with the result that claims 2, 4, and 11 were rejected under 35 USC §112, second paragraph, and claims 1, 3, 5-10, and 12-16 were allowed. In response, Applicants have amended the specification and claims as set forth above. More particularly:

The specification has been amended to more accurately correspond to the drawings, in which reinforcement fibers, e.g., glass fibers, are depicted as having been deposited on the concave (not convex) tooling surface 14 of the screen tooling 10, and thereafter held on the tooling surface 14 by a vacuum drawn through the tooling 10 from the opposite convex (not concave) side 16 of the tooling 10.

The abstract has been amended for consistency with the subject matter of the pending claims.

Claims 2, 4, and 11 have been amended to address the §112 rejection, namely, these claims have been amended to clarify that the porcelain enamel composition and dry mixture contain quartz, borax, boric oxide, potassium nitrate, sodium silicofluoride, and manganese dioxide, but that the remaining compounds - titanium dioxide, antimony oxide, cobalt oxide, and

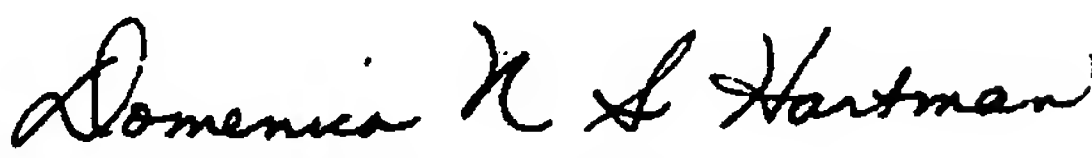
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barium oxide - are each optional.

Applicants believe that the above amendments do not present new matter, and respectfully request that their patent application be given favorable reconsideration.

Should the Examiner have any questions with respect to any matter now of record, Applicants' representative may be reached at (219) 462-4999.

Respectfully submitted,

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Attachment: Replacement Abstract

H-205829

FIBER PREFORMING PROCESS AND
COATING FOR SCREEN TOOLING THEREFOR

ABSTRACT OF THE INVENTION

Screen ~~An improved screen~~ tooling for a fiber preforming process, and a durable coating system for such tooling. The coating system comprises a surface layer of a porcelain enamel composition that is generally a borosilicate glass, and preferable contains quartz, borax, boric oxide, potassium nitrate, sodium silicofluoride, and manganese dioxide, and optionally contains titanium dioxide, antimony oxide, cobalt oxide and/or barium oxide. Preferred compositions are dependent in part on the screen tooling material. ~~The invention also encompasses a fiber preforming process that utilizes screen tooling with the coating system.~~